



Top Ten Things YOU Can Do To Reduce Global Warming!

Most climate pollution that causes global warming comes from fuels used to produce energy—gasoline, diesel, coal and natural gas. Here are the top ten things you can do to reduce climate pollution:

- 1. Drive less.** Walk, bike, take a bus, carpool and combine errands. Do whatever it takes to reduce your time behind the wheel.
- 2. Drive smart.** Keep your car tuned and tires properly inflated. Don't idle when you're stuck in a line. About 15 seconds is the break even point. Forget the jack rabbit starts. And on the freeway, keep your top speed at about 60 mph.
- 3. Be fuel efficient.** Not only will you save gas, money and reduce emissions, but driving a fuel-efficient car that gets at least 32 miles per gallon leads to a real reduction in climate pollution. If you drive a diesel vehicle, the more biodiesel you use, the fewer the emissions you produce.
- 4. Reduce, reuse and recycle.** It's not just about paper vs. plastic. Nearly every product on the market requires energy to produce, distribute and manage the resulting waste. Choose pre-owned products, products that have recycled content and products that are sold with less packaging. Check out one of Seattle's many salvage yards, construction demolition stores and consignment or thrift shops.
- 5. Use a push or electric mower.** Gasoline mowers are one of biggest polluters in the neighborhood. Go manual or electric this season.
- 6. Stay out of hot water.** A hot water tank is the second largest user of energy in a home. So, set your tank at about 120°F, take shorter showers, use water-efficient washing machines and wash clothes in cold water. You'll save energy, water and money.

- 7. Be a star, buy ENERGY STAR.** Look for the ENERGY STAR label, an EPA rating system awarded to only the most energy-efficient appliances, computers, light fixtures and many other electrical conveniences.
- 8. Turn down, turn off and unplug.** Set thermostats at 68°F when you're home and 55°F or lower when you're away or at night. Turn off lights in empty rooms and use compact fluorescent bulbs in place of standard light bulbs. Unplug electronics such as DVDs and cell phone chargers that aren't in use. Bring back the old clothes line to dry your wash.
- 9. Befriend your utility.** Both Puget Sound Energy (1-800-562-1482) and Seattle City Light (206-684-3800) have great energy conservation programs and can provide more information, technical assistance and even some rebates. You can find them on the web at www.seattle.gov/light/conserve/ and www.pse.com/solutions/ForYourHomeLanding.aspx.
- 10. Shout it out!** You can make a difference. Start by taking the steps above and then let others know of your commitment. Tell people where you shop and where you work that climate protection matters.

When it comes to global warming, cities are both the problem and the solution. World wide, cities account for 78 percent of all greenhouse gas emissions. But because cities are where the people are, your climate protection actions really can make a difference.

Mayor Nickels is committed to substantially reducing Seattle's contributions to climate pollution with actions that make sense for our city, our environment and economy. But it is an effort that depends on community-wide action—individuals, businesses, schools, commuters, governments—in short, everybody.

We cordially invite you—and everyone you know to join the effort. For more information on Mayor Nickels' climate initiative, please visit

www.seattle.gov/climate.

